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# Harding



WINTER  
2012

## *The changing field of* **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

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**Reaffirming our mission**

**Faith in time**

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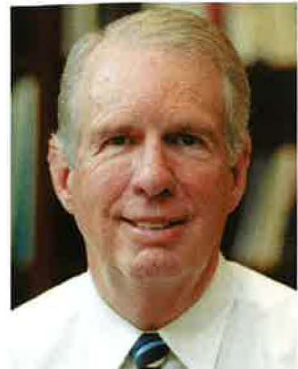
#1

Winter  
2012



# Changing roles

By DAVID B. BURKS, president



"What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?" These words from Matthew 16:26 appeared on the cover of the program for the celebration of life for our dear friend and brother, Neale Pryor. I was privileged to give remembrances at his service in Benson Auditorium Sept. 28, 2011. Bruce McLarty's tribute to this distinguished teacher appears on Page 2.

As you find on Page 4, I submitted my intent to retire from the presidency at the end of the 2012-13 academic year to the board at their regular meeting during Homecoming. I then announced it to the audience at the Black and Gold Banquet.

I want you to know that this was not an easy decision although it was in keeping with my long-term plan that has been in place since 2006. I love my work at Harding, and it has been a great honor to be in this position for the past 24 and a half years. I do feel that it is time to make a change in my role, and I am looking forward to the next 17 months and the opportunity to complete the current five-year strategic plan and accomplish as much as we can during this time frame.

I am hopeful that we can complete the apartments on the west side of campus [Page 5] and even build more beyond the ones being constructed this year. I hope we can build a new nursing and communication sciences and disorders facility next year to be completed by fall 2013. I hope we can implement new graduate programs in nursing and perhaps one or two other areas as well. These projects, of course, will be in addition to all of our regular initiatives that we are all involved in completing. As I look forward, the next 17 months will be very busy for us.

Please know that I am very grateful for your support given to me during my presidency. I have loved working with the faculty, staff, alumni and friends, as well as the student body and our board in this capacity. It has been a labor of love and a team effort that involves all of us in accomplishing the mission of Harding University.

I also appreciate the confidence placed in me by the board in asking me to be chancellor after I retire from the presidency. I look forward to continuing a connection with Harding for a period of time after 2013. I anticipate it being a very different role. I do appreciate, more than I can express, the work that Dr. Ganus has done as chancellor while I have been president. He has been a blessing to me and to the Harding family. At that point in time, as the announcement indicated, he will become chancellor emeritus.

I would ask for your prayers for the board of trustees as they begin the formal process of identifying the person God has in mind to lead this university in the future. Our board members love Harding and will proceed in an orderly fashion to gain input from the Harding family as they move forward with the process. **H**

*David B. Burks*

# Harding

## EDITOR/DESIGNER

Tom Buterbaugh, '78

## COPY EDITOR/WRITER

Jennifer Hannigan, '08

## WRITER

Hannah Beall, '11

## PHOTOGRAPHER

Jeff Montgomery, '91

## CONTRIBUTORS

David B. Burks, '65  
President

David Crouch, '70  
Director of Public Relations

Scott Goode, '97  
Sports Information Director

Ted Hackney, '79  
Director of the Center for  
Charitable Estate Planning

Liz Howell, '78  
Assistant to the President  
for Alumni and Parent Relations

Bruce McLarty, '78  
Vice President for Spiritual Life

Camille M. Reeves  
Assistant to the Director of Alumni Relations

Terri Rine, '82  
Writer

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**Email:** [hardingmag@harding.edu](mailto:hardingmag@harding.edu)  
**Website:** [www.harding.edu](http://www.harding.edu)

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## ON THE COVER

Technology is changing the field of criminal justice, both in the classroom and on the job. Photo by Jupiter Images.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

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[TRIBUTE]

NEALE PRYOR, 1958

## One of a kind

By BRUCE McLARTY, vice president for spiritual life

In the winter 2000 issue of this magazine, Neale Pryor wrote a wise and comforting article on “Passing the torch.” With words that deeply touch me today, he wrote,

“Each generation of students has its own list of Harding greats. And every generation of students from days gone by has wondered what would become of Harding when the master teachers who they knew were gone. They were so much a part of Harding that it was only natural to ask if Harding could really be Harding without them.”

As I write this, I am wondering if Harding can be Harding without Neale Pryor.

Dr. Pryor has been a central figure in this university for more than 50 years. Graduating as an English major in 1956, he earned an M.A. at Harding in English in 1958 and an M.Th. from Harding Graduate School of Religion in 1960. While serving at the Oak Grove church in Tennessee, only 25 miles from his beloved Mayfield, Ky., Neale met and married the love of his life, Treva Lou Terrell. The month they married, the young couple moved to Wood River, Ill., where Neale preached from 1960-1962. Then in fall 1962, while not quite 27 years old, he was invited by Dr. George Benson to return to Harding with his wife and infant son to teach Bible classes. The rest, as we often say, is history.

Neale held more important positions and received more honors from the University than can properly be listed here. He was named the Outstanding Young Teacher in 1966; he received the Distinguished Teacher Award in 1970, 1975 and 2002 making him a Distinguished Professor; he served as chairman of the Bible department for five years; he served as vice president of academic affairs for 18 years; Pryor Hall, a girls dormitory, was named after the Pryors in 2002; Neale and Treva received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2003.

Dr. Pryor earned his Th.D. in Old Testament from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1969. The listing of titles and awards, though, doesn't even begin to describe who Neale Pryor was. As the thousands of us who sat in his classes can attest, he was a one-of-a-kind teacher who left a permanent imprint on the heart of everyone he taught. He was brilliant, engaging, faithful, demanding, funny and keenly aware of us



1983 With former academic deans Sears and Pryor



2002 Posing with his beloved Treva



1971 In the classroom he loved

all. With his legendary memory, he not only mastered the name of every student, but he also had a special way of making each one of us feel cherished and important. A few years ago, an alumna sent a gift to Harding in the name of Dr. Pryor and included the following note: “I cannot think of Dr. Pryor without smiling for he always had a smile for us.”

Students were, indeed, tremendously important to this man. One of my favorite Neale Pryor-isms is his observation that every student enters the college classroom with three questions for the teacher tucked away in his or her heart: 1. “Do you like me?” 2. “Am I going to make it?” and 3. “Am I worth it?” He believed that if the teacher answered those three questions affirmatively for the student, then great good had already been done, and great learning could then take place. Somehow he could communicate with a class of 80 students that he liked each one of us, that he was confident we were going to make it, and that he considered us worthy of all the work and energy that he was putting into teaching us.

Everyone who knew Neale Pryor knew that he cherished his family and that he adored Treva. Even when Neale was in his 70s, the Pryors were still being described as a “cute couple.” During the last few years as Neale's health failed, Treva tenderly cared for him and made their home a safe and comfortable place for him to be. Like all good parents, the Pryors loved their children, Alan and Lori, more than life. That is why it was such a devastating loss when Alan died of cancer in 2002 at the age of 40. Delivering his own son's eulogy stands to this day as the most remarkable thing I ever saw this amazing man do.

It was in his later years that I came to appreciate the depth of Dr. Pryor's service to



2003 Addressing the Lectureship crowd with his characteristic smile

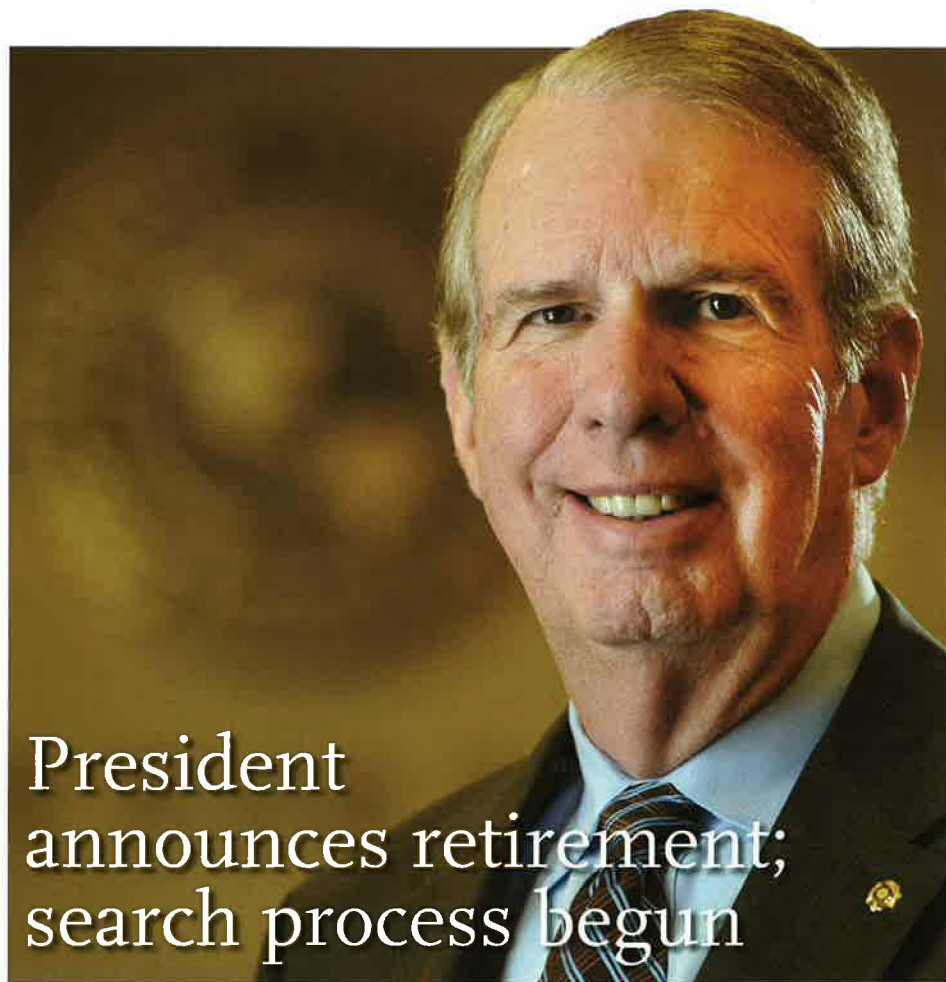
the church. During much of his life, he held 20 gospel meetings each year, one of which was usually at College Church, his home congregation in Searcy. For 31 years he served as an elder at College Church where for 40 years he taught the Sunday morning auditorium class. Auditorium classes are notorious for their cold and impersonal atmosphere, but each week Neale would take 10 minutes to introduce visitors and transform a gathering of strangers into a fellowship of brothers and sisters. One of the clearest indications of the deep love and respect people had for Neale was seen in funerals. Everyone seemed to trust him and want him to walk with them through the valley of grief. As I think about it now, I cannot remember a single funeral I was asked to conduct at College Church in which Neale Pryor was not also a speaker.

To be completely transparent, I don't like to think of Harding University without Neale Pryor in the picture. He was always one

of those capable and strong people you could look at and think, “He can handle whatever comes along, and everything is going to be alright.” And now he is gone. In the article I mentioned at the beginning, Dr. Pryor wrote about such unsettling times of transition. He said, “Our future does not depend upon keeping this generation of leaders but upon ensuring that our next generation of leaders are godly, faithful members of his church who are committed to following his word.” Doesn't that sound like Neale — clear, concise, understandable, memorable and encouraging? I love Neale Pryor. And even as I write this with tears in my eyes, I find that there is a smile on my face because Neale “always had a smile for us.” ■

Pryor, 75, died Sept. 25, 2011. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Treva Terrell ('86); a daughter, Lori Sloan ('86); and four grandchildren.





## President announces retirement; search process begun

An announcement on Oct. 28 at Homecoming 2011 has caused the board of trustees to move into a presidential search mode. ▸ At the conclusion of the annual Black and

Gold Banquet, President David B. Burks announced his intent to retire from the presidency at the end of the 2012-13 academic year, concluding 26 years at the institution's helm.

At the board's semiannual meeting earlier that day, Burks, 68, officially notified Dr. John O. Simmons, chairman of the University's board of trustees, of his decision.

Burks is only the fourth president in Harding's 87-year history. He assumed the presidency in June 1987.

Though the timing of the announcement was a little earlier than expected, retirement has been on Burks' mind for some time.

"In 2006 the board extended my contract and asked me to work until age 70," Burks said. "It should not come as a surprise to anyone that I am planning to retire from the role of president. I am following the timetable that I have had

tional studies programs were added in Australia, Chile, England, France, Greece and Zambia to go along with the already established program in Florence, Italy. The University developed doctoral programs in education, pharmacy, physical therapy and theology plus master's degree programs in communication disorders, business and physician assistant.

Simmons followed Burks to the podium at the banquet to add his personal remarks about the retirement.

"The work Dr. Burks does is extraordinary, showing vision and faith and a track record of success and excellence," said Simmons. "His leadership has continued the work of his predecessors by expanding the University's degree programs, promoting academic rigor and integrity, improving the fiscal stability of the University, and developing other initiatives to enhance the Harding experience for her students by integrating faith, learning and living.

"The book *Against the Grain*, which he edited a few years ago about Harding's history and mission reflects his leadership legacy. When others were fearful, nearsighted and timid, he has been faithful, visionary and bold. His leadership and management skills are a benchmark any university president would be wise to emulate. Most importantly for the Harding family, he has demonstrated, with the support of the board, that a faith-based university can and should grow and enhance its impact for good by strengthening the school's spiritual and Biblical foundations."

Burks' career at Harding has spanned more than four decades since joining the faculty in 1967. In addition to teaching accounting in the College of Business Administration, he served as dean of the college for 10 years prior to assuming the presidency.

He holds a baccalaureate degree from Harding (1965), M.B.A. from University of Texas (1966), and Ph.D. degree from Florida State University (1974).

During his career Burks has been active in national educational organizations. Most notable has been his leadership on the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of College and Universities where he served as a commissioner and chairman of the board.

Following the receipt of Burks' official notice, Simmons announced the board's decision to request that Burks become chancellor of the University. Dr. Clifton L. Ganus Jr., the current chancellor, will

be in mind since 2006.

"By making this announcement now I am giving the board sufficient time to search for my successor. I will do everything I can to make sure the transition is as smooth as possible.

"There is still much to be done, including the completion of the University's current five-year strategic plan. I expect to be working to achieve all of those goals until my last day in office."

Thus far in Burks' tenure as president, the enrollment has grown from 2,997 to 7,155, making Harding the largest private school in Arkansas. The University has completed capital projects totaling \$250 million. An additional \$12 million in capital funds has been allocated for an apartment housing project currently under construction. Also during his presidency the endowment has grown from \$18.7 million to more than \$110 million.

During his administration, interna-

become chancellor emeritus when Burks retires in June 2013.

Simmons also announced the appointment of a six-member process committee comprised of members of the board. Simmons, a Columbia, Tenn., physician, will chair the committee. Other members are J.R. Burcham Jr. of Kennett, Mo.; Roy Reaves of Russellville, Ark.; Harry B. Risinger Jr. of Millington, Tenn.; Rebecca Tubb of Sparta, Tenn.; and Robert C. Walker of Decatur, Ala.

Commenting on the search process

Simmons said, "The board and this committee will work initially to refine its processes while listening, focusing and doing its due diligence. We understand the importance of this position and the truly global and eternal impact the president of Harding University has.

"We believe Harding University is a testimony to the providence of God. We believe God has been preparing someone to fill this unique role. It will be the privilege of the committee to allow God to lead us to the person who will con-

tinue to build on the legacy of Harding's four previous presidents — all of whom have been the right person for the right time. We will be in prayer and ask for the prayers of others for the committee and Harding as we proceed with our work."

Simmons has not elaborated on any timetable that has been set by either the committee or the entire board to announce a successor to Burks.

For more information, please visit [www.harding.edu/presidentialsuccessionprocess](http://www.harding.edu/presidentialsuccessionprocess).



## University launches \$12 million building project

On Sept. 22, President David B. Burks announced the launching of the largest single construction project in the University's history.

Speaking to an assembly of more than 3,400 students, Burks said workers have begun site preparation for a \$12 million project to build 84 new apartments on the Searcy campus.

The ambitious plan, approved by the board of trustees at its May 2011 meeting, calls for the apartments to be ready for use by the beginning of fall 2012. The new apartments will house approximately 200 students.

Sixty-four apartments will be built on the west side of campus to expand housing for women and married students. There will be one-, two- and three-bedroom units. The apartments will be built on an area bordered by West Pleasure Ave., Dr. Jimmy Carr Drive and East Park Ave.

The new facilities are unlike any of the current apartments on campus. "The apartments will be built in the new urban town concept. The apartments will actually be in 15 separate buildings," said Burks. "Each building will have its own distinctive look and exterior color scheme."

The new structures will definitely change the look of the campus' west side. Once the initial units are completed, the

West Apartments located in the same area will be torn down and replaced with more apartments with the urban town look. The demolition will occur within 18 to 24 months after the new units are built. The West Apartments were built in 1974.

Burks pointed out the University needed additional apartments this fall as the enrollment surged more than five percent.

"We must have these new facilities if we are to keep pace with our rapidly growing student body," he said. "We must anticipate our needs for the future. Harding already has approximately 800 applications for fall 2012. At that rate we'll have more than 2,500 applications for the coming school year."

While the 64 units are being built, another 20 apartments will be constructed on the east side of campus at the Village Apartments. Burks said the additional units at the Village Apartments will have a much more traditional look, identical to the 60 units already in use at that location. The 20 new apartments will be used to house male students.

Financing for the \$12 million project will come from bonds authorized by Searcy's Public Facilities Board. Rent charged to students to live in the apartments will be the source of income needed to retire the bond issue.







## Self-portrait

For these four Harding **retirees**, retirement was not the end of the book but rather the beginning of a new chapter. We caught up with them to see what they're doing now.



WINNIE BELL

**Position held at Harding:** Assistant librarian (1959-75), library director (1975-90), and librarian emeritus (1990-present)

**Year retired:** 1990

**What have you done during retirement?** I made an inventory of the archives and indexed The Bison from 1925-2004 for Brackett Library. These can be searched online through the library's website. I am also working to make the materials in the Main Street Church of Christ in Crossville, Tenn., available to the whole congregation.

**Where have you traveled during retirement?** After I retired, my sister, Mildred Bell, and I traveled as much as we could all over the United States. One year we went from the northern tip of Alaska to the southern tip of Florida.



DEE CARSON

**Position held at Harding:** Assistant dean, College of Education; dean of student life

**Year retired:** 2005

**What do you miss most about Harding?** The students and faculty, as well as being a part of "educating for eternity"

**Favorite hobby now:** Yard work, being a hospital volunteer, and singing in the community chorus



JACK MCKINNEY

**Position held at Harding:** Professor of Bible and biblical languages

**Year retired:** 1992

**How have you kept busy during retirement?** I have been an avid jogger. In 2007, I suffered a stroke that damaged my equilibrium and peripheral vision. I had to terminate almost 27 years of jogging and road racing (where I accumulated 10 trophies), but I still walk about 700 miles a year.

**How do you stay connected with your former field?** I serve on the College Church of Christ's missions committee, so some information comes in this way as well as through reports from the field and occasional meetings. On the language side, our five years of ministry and living in Germany from 1993-98 and returning there from 1998-2007 have kept me warm and using my academic tools.



JACK THOMAS

**Position held at Harding:** Professor of psychology, chair of the department of behavioral sciences

**Year retired:** 2009

**What have you accomplished during retirement?** I was reappointed for a third term to the Criminal Justice Institute Advisory Board. I am also resident psychologist for the White County Sheriff's Department and teach classes for the Criminal Justice Institute at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock to law enforcement personnel throughout the state of Arkansas.

**How do you stay connected to your field?** In addition to providing therapy to personnel of the White County Sheriff's Department, I am also psychologist for Searcy Medical Center and other M.D.s in White and surrounding counties. I attend the annual U.S. Psychiatric and Mental Health Congress to keep my license current.

PHOTOS BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

Students walk past a trail of luminaries that line the sidewalks of the front lawn during Relay for Life Oct. 7. During each ceremony, participants decorate a paper sack to honor and remember a loved one who has passed or is fighting cancer.



## Relay moves to front lawn

On Oct. 7, 2011, the University hosted a 12-hour Relay for Life event on the front lawn from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. the next morning.

Relay for Life allows participants to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember those whose lives were lost, and show support for fighting back. At an event, participants camp out all night and teams take turns running or walking around a track or path.

Harding students made up the majority of participants, forming teams to raise money through fundraisers, donations and sponsorships. This year, \$13,623.73 was raised. The theme was "It's a small world with a big hope."

Each participating team was in charge of maintaining a booth where they hosted a variety of fundraisers during the event, including live music, games, themed laps, activities, a DJ, inflatable games and food. Each team had a corresponding subtheme to use for the costumes and booth decorations.

This was Harding's third consecutive year to host a Relay for Life event. Previously, it was held at the track at First Security Stadium. This year, however, the student committee decided to move the event to the front lawn.

"We decided to change the location because the setup of the front lawn was more conducive to the Relay For Life atmosphere that we wanted to create," event co-chair Andrea Stackpole said. "It was a more central location for people to come to, and it made it easier for passersby to stop by the event and participate. I think the change of location greatly increased participation this year."

Though the location was new, the large open area of the front lawn proved useful for an inflatable playground and a stage where several bands performed throughout the night. Luminaries were placed along the edge of the sidewalk that circled the entire quad to reflect on those afflicted by cancer.

"I was very pleased with the amount of teams we had and the efforts each team put into having a great fundraiser," Stackpole said. "The success of the event really depends on team participation and the teams did a great job of getting the word out and raising money for the event."

PHOTO BY ASHEL PARSONS

## Pharmacy disburses dual degree

In 2010, the College of Pharmacy began offering graduate students the opportunity to receive both a degree in pharmacy and a Master of Business Administration.

The four-year pharmacy program's first three years combine didactic instruction and early pharmacy practice experiences. The fourth year is entirely devoted to advanced pharmacy practice experiences. In addition, students pursuing an M.B.A. degree as well as a Pharm.D. are required to take 10 extra classes. Director of Business Professional Studies Glen Metheny said that pharmacy students are able to pursue either the traditional, 36-hour or the concentration, 42-hour M.B.A.

"The pursuit of an M.B.A. helps prepare them for the financial aspect of running a business as well as the organizational and personnel aspect of a business," Metheny said.

Second-year pharmacy student Brandon Coggins is working toward receiving both degrees. According to him, the process does require more

work but is well worth the effort. Coggins explained that in order to receive an M.B.A. as well as a Pharm.D., a student must complete 10 core classes and two electives. Two of the classes offered in the pharmacy program count for both programs. All pharmacy students take three total electives, and those pursuing the dual degree can choose to take an M.B.A. course during the elective semesters. Therefore, seven of the 10 core classes must be completed during the summer.

Coggins, as well as most other students in the program, has chosen this opportunity in pursuit of one day owning and operating his own pharmacy. The choice to obtain both degrees can be made upon being accepted into the College of Pharmacy, and the admissions process is comparable.

According to Dr. Julie Hixson-Wallace, dean of the College of Pharmacy, approximately 20 students are pursuing this opportunity through either joint or concurrent courses.

## Spring Sing goes 'Slightly Askew'

Entering its 39th year, Spring Sing plans on celebrating all things quirky and off-kilter April 5-7. The theme "Slightly Askew" promises to be a fast-paced, frenetic, theme park ride for everyone involved. Eighteen clubs will perform in six acts along with the University Jazz Band and Spring Sing Ensemble.

In keeping with the out-of-the-ordinary theme, for the first time since 1997 there will be five hosts and hostesses instead of the traditional four.

Veteran hostess Caroline Snell, senior public administration major from Ripley, Tenn., and host Nate White, senior history major from Omaha, Neb., welcome newcomers Matt Flynn, senior

preaching major from New Market, Ala.; Emily Helton, junior early childhood education major from Medina, Tenn.; and Benji Holder, junior music education major from Fort Wayne, Ind.

"The exciting part of the show for me this year is the energy level that our students bring to the stage and the drive of the show design as we are creating it," says director Steven Frye. "From a wacky, wondrous opening to a fast-paced, rocking closer, Spring Sing 2012 is dedicated to being something 'slightly askew' to anything ever seen before — anywhere."

For show times and ticket information, visit [www.harding.edu/springsing](http://www.harding.edu/springsing).



## Basketball's unsung heroes

By SCOTT GOODE, sports information director

It's a cool night in early December, and the men's basketball team is scheduled to play its home opener at the Rhodes Field House. As the Rhodes Rowdies file into the field house, a small group of people prepares for its duties at court level.

The volunteers working at the scorer's table have one goal — to do their jobs in complete obscurity. If someone notices them during the game, it's because they have made a mistake. For them their reasons for volunteering are just as varied as their day jobs.

Manning the scoreboard, probably the most stressful job at the scorer's table, is Harold Valentine ('61), who is in his 44th season on press row. Valentine began running the scoreboard in 1967 when he returned to Searcy after working in the athletic department at Cotton Plant (Ark.) High School and was asked by then athletic director Harry Olree to help with the scoreboard.

"I had worked in the publicity office as a student," Valentine says. "I wrote stories for The Bison and traveled with the team, so when I got back, Harry Olree asked me to help, and I've been doing it ever since." Sitting to Valentine's right for the last

24 years has been Sandra Boaz ('69), who began keeping the scorebook at Bison games in 1988.

"I filled in for Dr. Joe Pryor [former academic vice president], who kept the scorebook for years, a couple of games each year beginning in 1982.

"I've always enjoyed being around the students, and I've always loved sports," says Boaz. "I've been keeping a scorebook since my husband, Ned, played AAU, and I've kept doing it because it allows me to be around the students."

The public address announcer for the men's games is Logan Light ('04), director of campus life. Light began the role in 2010 after the previous announcer, Mike James, moved to Greece to direct Harding's overseas program there.

"I love basketball," says Light. "I really love Bison basketball, and I've had a history with it since I was a student. I also like being part of something bigger than my-

self. I try to announce the player's names with energy, and that sets the tone for the product we want to put out there. I also get great concessions and a great seat."

The announcer for the women's games is Dutch Hoggatt, a professor of communication and manager of Harding's KVHU radio station.

"It's especially exciting to announce the starting lineups and the name of a Lady Bison when she makes a great scoring play," Hoggatt says.

The scoreboard-scorebook combo for the women's games is Cliff Teeter and Steve Baber ('74). Teeter, who retired from the Navy as a chief petty officer in 1987 and lives in Judsonia, Ark., has volunteered at Bison basketball games for more than 10 years.

"I love watching good athletes play," Teeter says.

Baber is a professor of math and computer science and began volunteering at Lady Bison games in 2003.

"My days as a basketball player are long since past," says Baber. "I have no desire or ability to coach or referee. Working at the scorer's table is a chance for me to enjoy participating in a very special way with the excitement of NCAA basketball that takes place at Rhodes Field House."

Glenn Dillard ('84), assistant vice president for enrollment management and a scorer's table regular since 2005, mans the message board, prompting the Rowdies on their famous chants and letting opponents know when their shots have clanged off the backboard.

"I enjoy basketball games at Harding and trying to get the home crowd involved in the games," says Dillard.

The shot clock operator is Kathy Allen ('77), who works as assistant director of residence life. Allen resets the clock to 30 seconds for each possession in a men's game and 35 seconds for each possession in a women's game.

"It's the best seat in the house," says Allen, who began her work on press row in fall 2000. "I can't contribute in the game, so I feel like I can make a contribution this way."

Contribute they do while adding to the electrifying atmosphere of basketball at Rhodes Field House. **H**



At halftime, Sandra Boaz, Harold Valentine and Kathy Allen stop from their scorer's table duties and visit with Bison fans.

PHOTO BY ASHEL PARSONS

## ROUNDUP

### Biwott tops men's cross-country

Senior Philip Biwott finished 14th at the NCAA Division II South Region Meet and earned his fourth All-Region honor to highlight the 2011 men's cross-country season. The team placed ninth at the meet and did not qualify for nationals for the first time since 2007.

The Bisons placed second of four teams at the inaugural Great American Conference Meet, Oct. 22, 2011, at Wyldewood Retreat Center in Searcy. Biwott earned All-GAC honors with a fourth-place finish, and freshman Lajos Farkas earned All-GAC and GAC Freshman of the Year by finishing seventh.

### Cross-country women race to title

Women's cross-country won the inaugural Great American Conference championship, highlighting the 2011 season. The Lady Bisons defeated eight other teams and captured the title by placing four runners in the top eight at the meet held at Wyldewood Retreat Center in Searcy.

Senior Gladys Kimtai won the six-kilometer race in 17 minutes, 18 seconds. Freshman Ewa Zaborowska was second with senior Mary Samoei fourth and freshman Dallis Bailey eighth. Each earned All-GAC honors, and Zaborowska was GAC Freshman of the Year.

The Lady Bisons placed two runners on the NCAA Division II All-South Central Region Team. Zaborowska placed eighth at the South Central Region Meet, and senior Gladys Kimtai was 13th to earn All-Region honors.

The team placed seventh of 19 teams at the regional meet and did not qualify for nationals.

### Football sets rushing record

In 2011, there was not another Division II team in America better at running the football than the Harding Bisons. The team broke a school record set in 1972 and led Division II with 360.9 rushing yards per game. The Bisons' offense also set new school records for rushing touchdowns (38) and total touchdowns (52).

The Bisons had two linemen honored as All-Great American Conference — senior offensive guard Garrett Taylor on First Team and junior offensive tackle Tory Day on Second Team. Taylor, who led in knockout blocks in seven of the team's 11 games, was named Daktronics Second Team All-Super Region 4 and was a nominee for the Gene Upshaw Award, given annually to Division II's top offensive or defensive lineman.

The team gained a school-record 3,970 rushing yards with senior Kale Gelles collecting 1,005 yards on 170 carries. He earned First Team All-GAC honors and became only the third running back in Bison history with consecutive 1,000-yard seasons. Senior slot back Jeremy Holt also earned First Team All-GAC honors. He rushed for 512 yards and four touchdowns and was the team's second-leading receiver with nine catches for 295 yards and three more touchdowns. During the season, Holt became only the second Harding player ever with more than 1,000 rushing yards and 1,000 receiving yards in his career.

A pair of juniors led the defense in 2011. Defensive end Josh Aldridge and linebacker Aaron Gillaspie both earned Second Team All-GAC honors. Aldridge led Harding with 12.5 tackles for loss and 7.5 sacks, while Gillaspie had a team-high 89 tackles.

The special teams were also outstanding in 2011 thanks to senior transfer Eddy Carmona, who was First Team All-GAC as a placekicker. Carmona made 10-of-13 field goals and 46-of-49 extra points. The highlight of his season was a 62-yard field goal against East Central University that was the longest field goal in the NCAA this season and the fourth-longest in the history of Division II. Carmona joined Taylor

PHOTOS BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

on the Daktronics All-Super Region 4 Second Team.

Senior offensive lineman James Kee was named to the Capital One Academic All-America Division II First Team. With the honor, Kee became only the fourth Harding student-athlete and the first Bison football player ever to earn First Team Academic All-America honors.

The Bisons finished the season 4-7 overall and 3-3 and tied for third place in the GAC.



### Men's soccer advances to tourney

The men's soccer team, in its first season under new head coach Jeremy Bishop and last year competing in the Gulf South Conference, reached the GSC Tournament for the first time since 2008.

The Bisons fell 2-1 to ninth-ranked Christian Brothers University in the semifinals of the GSC Tournament, finishing the season 6-11-2.

Four players earned All-GSC honors, led by junior Jackson Savage, who was the only First Team honoree. Redshirt freshman Jona Amsoms, senior Connor Galloway and junior Rhon Royer earned Second Team honors.

Galloway and sophomore Ryan Wilhelm led the team with four goals each, and Savage led the conference with five assists.

After the season ended, the team was invited to be an associate member of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association. Because the Great American Conference does not have men's soccer, Harding will be one of two GAC schools who will participate in the eight-team MIAA for the 2012 season.

### Lucar leads women's soccer scoring

Women's soccer sophomore Adrianna Lucar continued her assault on the Lady Bison record book in 2011. She scored 11 of the team's 21 goals during the season, ran her two-year total to 18, and is tied for ninth in career goals by a Lady Bison.

Lucar led the Great American Conference in goals, points (23), and shots (75) and earned First Team All-GAC honors.

The Lady Bisons finished the season 4-13-1 overall and 0-6-0 in the GAC. Sophomore defender Hannah Hatcher also received First Team All-Conference honors. Senior Chelsea Brandon and sophomore Ashley Royce both appeared on the Second Team list.

### Volleyball in tournament finals

Women's volleyball placed second in the regular season and reached the finals of the conference tournament in its first year in the Great American Conference.

The team finished 25-8 overall and compiled a 13-3 conference record. Harding entered the GAC Tournament as the No. 2 seed and defeated Southwestern Oklahoma State University and Southern Arkansas University to reach the finals but fell 3-2 to Arkansas Tech University.

Sophomore outside hitter Mollie Arnold earned First Team All-GAC honors. She was second in the conference with 3.98 kills per set and ninth with 3.46 digs per set. Arnold and sophomore Alyssa Short were named to the GAC All-Tournament team.

Kalyn Helton was named GAC Freshman of the Year after averaging 2.43 kills per set. Helton, Short and junior Bailee Graham were named GAC Honorable Mention.

For the latest sports information, visit [www.hardingsports.com](http://www.hardingsports.com).



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Dr. Jim City's son-in-law and former Bison quarterback Kyle Blickenstaff prepares to give the invocation.

# TRAINING COMPLEX *named for* TEAM PHYSICIAN

By HANNAH BEALL, photography by JEFF MONTGOMERY

The University hosted the dedication of the new addition to Ganus Athletic Center Oct. 29, 2011, during Homecoming festivities. In honor of his tireless work and dedication to Bison football, this new extension was named the Dr. Jim City Football and Athletic Training Complex.

The complex includes a 6,600-square-foot state-of-the-art weight room, a 4,000-square-foot locker room with 130 lockers and a 5,000-square-foot athletic training complex that includes offices, a rehabilitation area and a hydrotherapy area. The weight room is named in honor of the Griffin family, former Bison football player, Ray ('02), his sons and former Bison football players Steven ('90) and Chad ('95), and his daughters and former Bison cheerleaders Kim Mote ('88) and the late Lori Newby ('92). The locker room is named after John Prock, Bison head football coach from 1964-87.

Citty played tight end for the Bisons beginning in 1959, the first season after Harding reinstated football, and lettered in 1959 and 1960. He returned to the sidelines in 1975 to serve as a team physician. A Searcy resident and family practice doctor, Citty graduated from the University in 1961 and received his medical degree from the University of Tennessee at Memphis.

"Dr. Citty has been invaluable to both the Harding football program and the athletic training program," head football coach Ronnie Huckleba said. "The Dr. Jim City Football and Athletic Training Complex is going to be outstanding for our players and coaches, and we have dreamed about a facility like this for a long time."

### TOP TO BOTTOM

Dr. Jim City enjoys visiting with Steve Kellar of Arlington, Texas, prior to the program.

Charlene Prock talks with Joe David Smith from Newport, Ark., at the dedication ceremony. She represented her husband, former head coach John Prock.

Steven, Chad, Georganne and Ray Griffin and Kim and Roddy Mote listen to remarks during the dedication.

Former coach Jerry Mote talks with Kent and Maralyn Citty before the festivities begin.



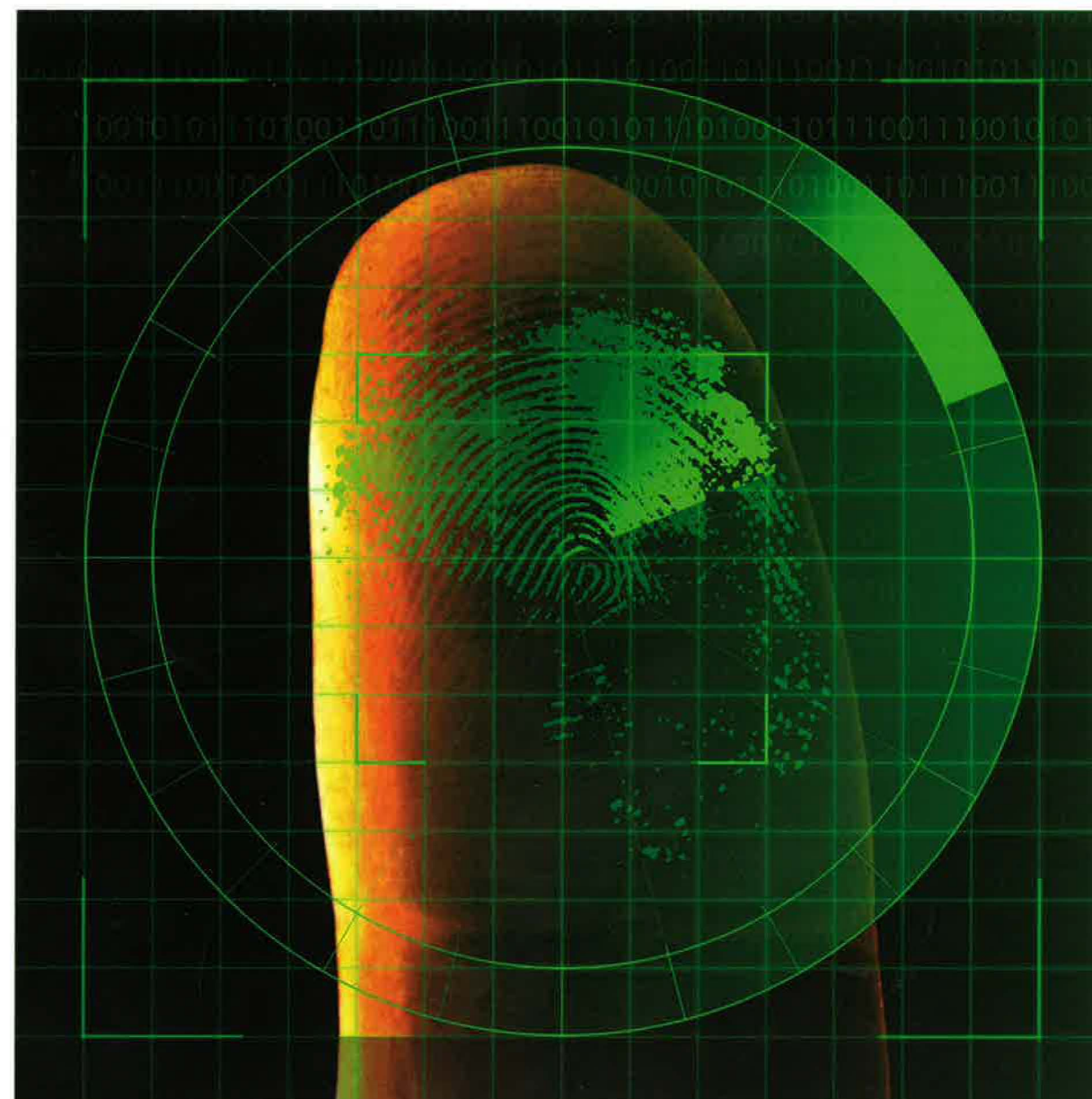


## Tackling the changing

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE FIELD

By HANNAH BEALL

**W**ith approximately 90 majors and 50 minors to choose from, a challenge lies not far in the distance as students embark on their journeys down such roads as medicine, education or business. The information a student studies on the first day of the first semester could easily have changed significantly by the time they walk across the stage and receive their diploma. How do you teach a subject that is ever changing?



Many students spend their time in the criminal justice program building a foundation to one day work in law enforcement. These students choose a road to service, at times a dangerous one, but more importantly a road that is changing every day.

### From toddler to trooper

After graduating high school, Clay Platt, a 2007 graduate of the criminal justice program, spent his first year training for the Air Force and enlisted in the Air National Guard. During this time, Platt enrolled at the University for the fall 2003 semester and was a criminal justice major from the start. His dad was a prosecu-

tor and is now a federal magistrate judge. Growing up around law enforcement, Platt was frequently surrounded by a number of officers, troopers and agents.

"I have always been drawn to police work as a possible career," Platt said. "The combination of helping others, trying to make society a safer and better place to be, and the unexpected nature of the job all played a big part in my decision."

That decision led to Platt becoming a state trooper for the Texas Department of Public Safety. His basic responsibility lies in the unincorporated areas of counties, where cities do not have jurisdiction. He is responsible for investigating traffic crashes in these »

PHOTOS BY HENNERA/THINKSTOCK



areas, stopping cars for various traffic offenses, and assisting local agencies when and where they need help.

"We are trained to be self sufficient and independent in our decision making, and most of us strive to handle our own business as it comes," Platt said. "Most officers are very reactive and respond to calls that they are dispatched to, such as a domestic disturbance, noise complaint or theft reports."

Platt has been working on the road for more than three years. In that time he has been able to attend numerous training schools and classes on a wide variety of subjects. He is currently a member of the District Criminal Interdiction Team and a field training officer, which requires him to instruct new recruits at the academy in report writing, and he is a part of the pilot program for Interdiction for the Protection of Children (child sex trafficking). In his short time, he has made more than 150 arrests, the majority of those being for drug possession or intoxication related offenses, and he has investigated more than 100 traffic crashes.

### An unexpected candidate

Christy Parent graduated in December 2011 with degrees in criminal justice and psychology. She is compassionate and would do anything for her friends. She has a friendly personality and a contagious smile. She's also a deputy jailer at the White County Detention Center.

"When I started at the jail, people always told me that I wouldn't last two weeks because I was too nice, and I smiled too much," Parent said. "I would just smile and think to myself, 'I could take you down and still do it with a smile on my face.'"

Parent is from Detroit and grew up wanting a job in law enforcement. "I've always wanted to do some sort of work with law enforcement ever since junior high," Parent said. "Not only did I read a lot of books about it, but also my softball coach in high school was a police officer. I really liked the idea of doing something exciting, helping the public and making a difference."

Parent came to Harding in fall 2007 as a criminal justice major. As she learned more about the subject, she found that the psychological aspect of the criminal mind intrigued her. It was then that she added psychology as a second major in hopes of becoming a profiler for the FBI. A profiler's main responsibility involves

working with the FBI and other law enforcement agencies to find habitual criminals or serial offenders. Their job is to build a psychological, physical and geographical profile for the subject.

"Once I realized that I liked psychology, I wanted to find some way to incorporate that into my future career," Parent said. "It was then that I decided that profiling would be a perfect way to merge the two together."

Parent has worked at the White County Detention Center since May 2011. Her main responsibilities include overseeing inmate life and booking people in and out of the jail. Before her current job, Parent was an intern for the White County Police Department during spring 2010. She greatly enjoyed the internship and the people she worked with. It was from this internship that the opportunity to work at the jail came about. Parent has had an abundance of training for the experiences she has had with the Searcy Police Department and the jail.

"My preparation through the criminal justice program and being able to work full time has allowed me to make a steady transition," Parent said. "The program prepared me very well for my internship and my job at the jail."

### Law in practice

Kyle Fonville graduated from Harding in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice. During his time as an undergrad, Fonville knew he wanted to do something exciting and challenging on a daily basis. As he dove deeper into the criminal justice curriculum, he discovered his niche.

"As I began to take more law-oriented classes, I realized that my excitement and challenges lay in the practice of law as opposed to dodging bullets," Fonville said.

Fonville is currently in law school at Texas Wesleyan University School of Law. His plan is to graduate in May 2013 and sit for the bar in July 2013. Though he has not decided which area of criminal justice he would like to practice, he is excited about the many possibilities he has.

### Tackling changes

These three individuals are all part of an evolving educational experience. Like many other professions, the criminal justice

field is continually changing. So how do you teach freshmen about aspects of their field of study that could possibly change by the time they are seniors? According to B.J. Houston, director of the criminal justice department, staying informed on changes in the law and technology is key.

"It is a time-consuming task to remain current in all areas of the criminal justice field, but nonetheless a necessary thing," Houston said. "Otherwise, students would be graduating with old or stale information and not prepared for the professional challenges that face them when they enter the real world."

This changing profession has presented both exciting opportunities and challenges for law enforcement. According to Platt, many of these changes stem from new technology. Crime scene processing, joint information systems and patrol car computers have all benefited from new technology.

"Overall, my department has increased its ability in all of its crime labs to process evidence faster and more efficiently, and we have a more efficient intelligence gathering and disseminating center," Platt said. "All of these things help to stay ahead of the criminals."

Online resources such as LeadsOnline and LeadsOnlabs are used by thousands of law enforcement agencies to help solve crime. Specifically, LeadsOnline allows pawnshops to log and keep records of items they take in. Some states even require the use of specific programs, like LeadsOnline, to make it easier for law enforcement officers to locate offenders. For example, a man breaks into a house, steals a gun, and then shoots someone on his way to pawn the gun at a local shop. If the gun was logged into LeadsOnline, police could search the database for that gun from anywhere in the nation and find out information on the suspect.

This high-tech, crime-fighting tool helps criminal justice professionals generate more helpful information to solve and sometimes prevent crime. Since 2000, this resource has been a tremendous advantage for law enforcement officers and has allowed for many arrests of violent offenders.

The improvement of shared databases is another area of technology that has changed the criminal justice field. For Platt's department, this resource is constantly changing. This

database collects bits of information about vehicles, people, locations, etc., and when searched, pulls from all the information it has to help fill in the blanks of unsolved crimes.

"Since trends and criminals ways are always changing, it is becoming increasingly important to have networking in place and an ability to share intelligence databases nationwide," Platt said.

### Social media mayhem

For Fonville, changes he has seen are a little different. During summer 2011, Fonville interned at the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office in Fort Worth, Texas. He was able to observe several criminal court room proceedings and also had the opportunity to listen to numerous sets of jury instructions.

"One thing that really stuck out to me was every judges' emphasis on the rules about the juror's communications outside of the court room," Fonville said. "Most judges went into a long speech about social media, specifically how the rules of the court are applied to Facebook and Twitter."

Juries are generally supposed to be sequestered, or cut off from the rest of the world. This is done so judges can control what information the jury hears, thus providing a fair and unbiased jury. If this cannot be done physically by placing them in a secure location, the court must instruct the jury on how to do it themselves.

"What many do not realized is how reliant we are on the information we obtain on the Internet," Fonville said. "This has caused a huge problem in the court system. For instance, there have been cases where jurors connect with the attorney involved in the case, other jurors, expert witnesses, and even defendants on Facebook or even on dating websites. This threatens the entire integrity of the justice system and has changed the way many judges and lawyers deal with criminal trials."

Parent also recognizes the significant affect social media has on the criminal justice profession. These kinds of resources have put a great spotlight on law enforcement officers.

"From my time working with the Searcy Police Department and the jail, I have witnessed several professionals going under review, receiving probation, and even being fired for things they have posted to personal social media sites," Parent said. "Before I began my job at the jail, I had to go through a two-week jail standards class where we talked about social media and were instructed to keep our personal life separate from our work life. We are held to a higher standard because we represent the community."

Change, in any situation, can have both a positive and negative result. Even the smallest change in technology, such as computer-generated reports and e-tickets, can make the process of doing things much easier but can also lead to more challenges with staying ahead of a criminal.

"Certain parts are becoming easier, such as being able to track a criminals actions, but because of the way technology is moving it has also opened a whole new door of different types of crime," Parent said. "Things like cybercrime and online child pornography are becoming huge. The worldwide Web is allowing criminals to have access to more resources and be more organized with the crimes they commit."

Recently, in her forensics science class, Parent and her classmates learned about computer evidence and how easy it is to recover lost files and figure out where a computer has been. This class, along with several others in the criminal justice curriculum, have been crafted to help keep students up to date on current resources and methods of solving crime.

In a profession that is rapidly changing, the criminal justice department's curriculum is doing the same, producing graduates who dedicate their lives to serving their communities. **H**



Clay Platt



Christy Parent



Kyle Fonville





# THE MISSION OF HARDING UNIVERSITY

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF MISSION WAS ADOPTED BY THE  
HARDING UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY 2008  
AND REAFFIRMED MAY 2011.

**H**arding University was founded in 1924 upon spiritual convictions. We are, at our core, a Christian university. The character, example and concerns of Jesus Christ are the standards that shape us and chart the course for our future. Because of this, an all encompassing love for God and a corresponding love for people are at the heart of who we are.

We are committed to retaining the Christian identity of Harding University. Realizing that there is a powerful, almost overwhelming tendency for Christian institutions to drift toward secularism, we recommit ourselves at this time to the distinctive practices that have always been central to Harding's Christian mission: required Bible classes, daily chapel, and a lofty code of behavior for the board, administration, faculty and students.

For many years it has been our motto that Harding University integrates and celebrates "faith, learning and living." The Christian worldview is to be at the core of every academic discipline and every extracurricular activity on campus. Every professor who stands in front of a class, every coach who stands in front of a team, and every director who stands in front of a cast or a chorus is to speak and lead as a man or woman of God. They are to confess, both in words and actions, that God created the world, that He redeems us through the blood of His Son Jesus, that He fills his children with His Holy Spirit, and that He calls us to be holy as He is holy. Such core themes will be emphasized in chapel services, in faculty meetings and throughout the University.

The Gospel of John states that "the Word became flesh and lived for a while among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). Grace and truth were perfectly blended in Jesus. He spoke truth but always in a gracious way. He extended his hand in grace but never betrayed the truth in doing so. However, Christians constantly struggle to demonstrate that same sacred balance. Gracious people are easily tempted to compromise truth, and truth seeking people often communicate ungraciousness. Recognizing this challenge, we are determined to be a people who are "full of grace and truth," sacrificing neither in the pursuit of both. Cheap grace and harsh truth are two extremes we will seek to avoid. Our hope is that when people think of Harding University they will think of both grace and truth.

Another important aspect of our institutional identity is our

belief in the Bible as the fully inspired and authoritative word of God. We hold it to be "God breathed" and the basis of our teaching and life. The Bible is central to our goal of spiritual formation in the life of everyone at Harding. Consequently, it is our goal that every graduating senior leave our university with a greater level of confidence in Scripture than they had when they first arrived on campus.

Harding University has always been a leader in world missions. Nearly one third of the missionaries who have gone out from churches of Christ have graduated from Harding. We believe that at this critical point in history it is important that we renew our commitment to participate fully in the mission of God, both at home and abroad. While the pluralism of our postmodern culture denies the need to preach the gospel, we continue to believe that salvation is found only in Jesus Christ and that Christians are to "go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

Harding has always been deeply connected with churches of Christ, and we reaffirm this connection. Our goal will be to continue to hire only members of churches of Christ as faculty and administrators. Though we live in a time of significant confusion over our brotherhood's identity, we are determined that Harding University will become captive to neither a rigid legalism on the right nor a formless liberalism on the left. "With gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:16), we affirm on this occasion such distinctive convictions of the mainstream churches of Christ as baptism for the remission of sins, a cappella music in worship, and male spiritual leadership.

While we maintain our close ties with the churches of Christ, we make clear that Harding opens her arms to all. Those who do not share all of our convictions are always welcome, and we will work hard to see that they are always treated with kindness, fairness and respect.


This Statement of Mission is presented, and we offer it to God with the words of our Lord, Jesus: "Father...not [our] will, but yours be done." (Luke 22:42) 

PHOTO BY ASHLEY PARSONS





PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

IN THE MIDST OF HEARTBREAK, ONE  
FAMILY SHARES THEIR STORY OF

# FAITH IN TIMES OF TROUBLE

By TERRI RINE



**T**hursday night, April 30, 2009, we received that late night phone call parents always fear. Our daughter, Micah, was missing. ▸ Mat Kearney's song "Closer to Love" describes life experiences as keeping us "one phone call from our knees" — and for us, this was that phone call. It was a long, very dark, very quiet trip to Memphis, Tenn., where Micah and her husband, Thomas, lived. Since we were told that she was last seen running, my husband, Dennis, ran the familiar route through their neighborhood, the same one he and Micah had run together several times before. Micah's sister-in-law, Katie Beth Allen, ran with him on this Thursday, searching for any clues about her absence. We, along with several of Micah's friends, searched all night. >>



Friday morning was trash collection in their neighborhood. As people would bring their trash cans to the curb, my desperation led me to approach each resident with a picture of Micah, asking if they knew anything of her whereabouts. Even in that early stage, I could feel God's presence in those strangers who would express such genuine concern as I conveyed my uncertainty about Micah's missing. Likewise, though, I felt an unbelievable overwhelming presence of evil. My prayer was that Micah be found and safe.

We spent most of the day at the Bartlett Police Station. They were a very competent police staff and were determined to resolve the matter. Friends and family flooded the station to wait with us. We knew the longer it went on, the less likelihood there would be a good ending. The police kept saying that her husband needed to be eliminated as a suspect first. That never happened. As the day went on there were more and more parts of Thomas' story that didn't add up. That evening around 7:30 after several hours of questioning, a voluntary lie detector test, search hounds, and an entire police staff along with others from different precincts, Thomas admitted to killing Micah and agreed to take the police to her body.

The police called Dennis, our son, Casey, and me into a small room to tell us the news. It felt like the bottom had fallen out. Our emotions were all over the map. We then went back into the bigger room with all of "our people" to give them the news. From that moment on, we felt Satan's hand was all over this; therefore we needed to rely on the one who could defeat him. Dennis said, "I actually prayed to God that he did not understand what it was like to lose a child. Almost immediately I thought, 'Duh!'"

Looking back, we can see with keener clarity the degree to which God was walking with us. We can see

the generosity of God's presence throughout the whole ordeal. We felt his presence, but so many things were unveiled in his timing that continued to draw us under his wing (Isaiah 40:26-31). We were frequently reminded of the passage: "I will never leave you or forsake you."



**We were in survival mode** the whole summer. We were told multiple times that their house and all of her things would be ours. So with each trip to Memphis, we would bring home a carload of stuff. This resulted in being a great burden to us. Stuff doesn't replace relationships.

We wanted the girl — not the stuff.

Additionally, probate court was very tiring. We relied heavily on Romans 8:28 — "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." We were both very emotional every day, and being able to laugh again comes slowly. The reality of visiting the grave and visually seeing the permanence is daunting. As the grass grew and the stone was set, very heavy emotions set in.

The hearings required us to be in Memphis about once a month for 20 months. After that, we had to

go much more often — sometimes every week. The prosecution team, led by Missy Branham, was amazing. They treated us very specially and convinced us that they would do anything to see us through the process and that justice would be served. Each meeting with the prosecution team became a blessing. They were very reassuring. We didn't have to hide from the truth.

The delays were tiring. Decisions were appealed, and a judge retired in the middle of the process. We had to wait for an election, which resulted in a very competent judge. Again, God's fingerprints were present,



Terri and Micah Rine

working in his time.

Of course, it was all difficult, but probably the most stressful hearing was when an hour of the taped confession statement was played while we listened. We knew ahead of time that it was going to be played, but it was very painful to hear details about Micah's murder.

We were blessed to have so many friends and family to walk this journey with us. Casey referred to our crew of loved ones as our "posse." God chose who to place on our path at precisely the right time, and those folks obeyed the Spirit's leading as they willingly served us. All the way through the process, we would see signs that God was walking with us and still is. God works in his time, and he is faithful.

Scripture was such a comfort for us. Several friends supplied us with grab-and-go Scripture cards and portable texts and lists that we kept close on every trip as well as at home. Those cards continue to minister to us. We've been reminded of many Scriptures that serve as encouragement for a difficult journey like ours. Likewise, in the context of our struggle, hymns and Christian music have taken on new meaning for us.

We find great comfort in Micah's prayer journal. We feel that she still speaks to us through it. Many of our questions have been answered. She was able to speak her heart on the pages of the journals, and her heart was with God. This was evident in the fact that, two days before her death, she noted, "I love you, Lord, I really just want to be with you."



**Now we ask,** "What is the new normal?" Our day-to-day walk has to be with God. There is no other help. We have had lots of friends who have encouraged us. Many would go to the trial with us. We really have more friends than we ever knew possible. There were people who came into our lives at just the right time that we take to be

angels sent by God. When we went to trial, Dennis said to his brother, Tim, that there were probably more than 10,000 people praying for us. Tim said that number was too small. We find that to be incredibly humbling.

This event has not destroyed us, but it has defined us. We will never be the same. It has prepared us to reach out to others who would not have been in our area of influence before. Our ministry has taken a direction that we would have never been equipped for prior to this happening. We are honored to be used as God's tools. We try to make a message from our mess. We share our story with groups, using it in relation to faith and forgiveness. Because of our jobs, we come into contact with young people, so we feel like talking to them about the choices they make is our ministry right now. God has given us this experience, and a way we can use it is to help them make better decisions.

This journey has given us keener awareness of schemes of the Evil One. We don't want to have had this experience and not use it to glorify God. As the song by Casting Crowns says, "I'll praise you in the storm." It has become our mantra. Also, for us now, heaven is all the sweeter.

As a result, our worship has become more meaningful and focused. It seems we are so much more attuned to the Scriptures being read — as if God is speaking directly to us. Even more, the songs that we had known for years and probably sung without emotion now take us to new levels of praise — as if we are speaking directly to God. We have been blessed beyond measure. This tragedy has drawn us closer to God on many levels, so maybe it wasn't such a "tragedy." Likewise, though we would choose a different passage to death, Micah is safer than she has ever been, and that is not such a "tragedy."

While people look at us and think that it is so sad — which it is — there are some amazing things that have come as a result for us ... and for Micah. **H**

## Working together for good

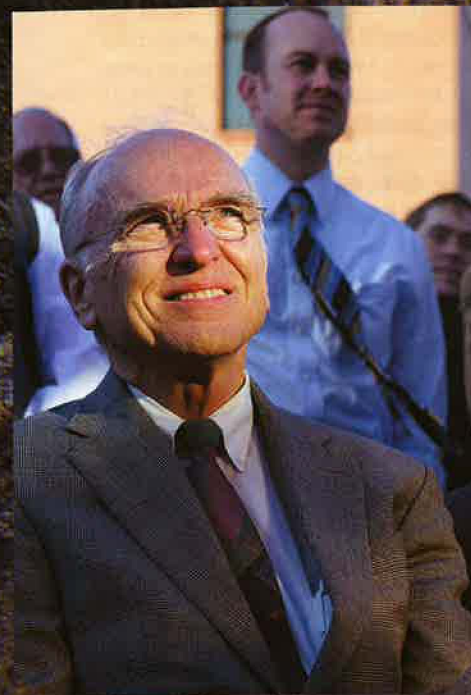
**In the wake** of Micah's death, many from the Harding and Searcy communities rallied in support of Dennis and Terri and to memorialize Micah. On Oct. 8, 2011, the Micah Rine Wildcat Legacy 5K was held to raise money for a wellness center at Harding Academy, where Micah attended, and was named in her honor. More than 200 people took part in the event. A memorial scholarship was set up at the Academy in her name as well. That same weekend, her class of 2001 celebrated their 10-year class reunion.

Earlier, family and friends gathered at Camp Tahkodah to dedicate a bell and gazebo in her memory. Micah spent 15 summers at Tahkodah. University women's social club Zeta Rho, men's club TNT, and many friends joined together and raised money to build a tower for the new bell [pictured on Page 20] and gazebo.

Many, many more acts of kindness have sprung out of Micah's passing, from Bibles being distributed, children's homes funded, scholarships given for the Carr College of Nursing, and others just looking to make a positive impact on the community around them. Additionally, there have been memorial efforts furnished in Memphis at Memphis Obstetrics and Gynecological, where Micah worked, and Germantown Methodist Hospital.



Surprised by the words he is hearing, Floyd Daniel learns that the conference room is being named in his honor.



The new café provides a place for relaxation and conversation for seniors Bethany Brown Chavez, Lauren Travis, Lori Hyde and Leanna Eppel.

Listening to remarks by her son Stephen, June Carter sits with her daughter Stephanie Howell, son Sam and grandson Ross Carter.



Addressing the crowd, Stephen Carter gives remarks on behalf of the Carter family.

A ticker can be viewed from both stories of the newly enlarged lobby.



# Mabee dedication honors CARTER

By JENNIFER HANNIGAN, photography by JEFF MONTGOMERY

**C**onstruction on the Mabee Business Building began August 2010, saw its completion May 2011, and was formally dedicated Nov. 10, 2011.

The dedication highlighted the building's new addition but ultimately focused on the impact the late Paul R. Carter had on the College of Business Administration, naming the college in his honor. The University board member and Wal-Mart chief financial officer was known for his faith, integrity and encouragement for students pursuing careers in business.

"We are honored to have Paul R. Carter's name on our building and his story in our lobby," said Dr. Bryan Burks, dean of the College of Business Administration. "I believe Paul would've

liked this building because we built it with the students in mind."

The Carter family was represented by four generations, including his widow, June, with his sons, Steven and Sam, participating in the dedication.

"Dad would not have encouraged having anything named after him, but he deserves it," said Steven.

The expansion created spaces conducive for classroom instruction, group meetings, and student and faculty interaction, along with cutting edge technology to aid in the learning process. And while the space is now equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and more room to grow, the mission of the college has not changed.

"Our goal is to remind our students that they are the 'salt of the earth,' 'the light of the world,' people of integrity, and Christians before anything," said Burks. ■



## 1960

**Jim Brown's** book published in 2003, *A Bridge to Cross*, was optioned by CPA Films after finding the script on InkTip. His wife is **Ina Linn** ('63). (3 Plantation Drive, W. Heber Springs, AR 72543; ibrown@suddenlink.net)

## 1962

**Faye Woodham Hall** was honored at the November 2011 Southern Kern Unified School District Board of Trustees meeting. She was recognized for her volunteer work in the district's elementary schools. She works with testing programs, language arts and literature in the classroom, and she specializes in butterflies. She retired in 2003. (45453 Genoa Ave., Lancaster, CA 93534)

## 1963

**Jewel Goodman Warfield** was honored at the November 2011 Southern Kern Unified School District Board of Trustees meeting for her volunteer work in the district. She works with testing programs, language arts and literature in the classroom. She is passionate about *Little House* author Laura Ingalls Wilder. She retired in 2003. (1368 Indian Sage Road, Lancaster, CA 93534)

## 1967

**Ernest A. Clevenger Jr.** has published his 45th book @ *Any Age, An Autobiographical Memoir with Genealogical and Historical Records*. He is the retired president of Faulkner University. He and his wife, Glenda, have two children. (1136 Lipscomb Drive, Nashville, TN 37204; clevengerea@comcast.net)

## 1968

**Randy Hiner** was inducted into the Arizona Interscholastic Association Athletic Administrator Hall of Fame Sept. 12, 2011. He served Arizona as an educator for 41 years, 28 in athletic administration. He and his wife, Susan, have three children. (P.O. Box 7140, Page, AZ 86040)

## 1972

**Wayne Ray** received his Ph.D. in Christian education from Newburgh Seminary in Newburgh,

## A painter who fights

Growing up in Waterford, Mich., **David Richardson** ('88) was taught at a very young age how to draw and paint.

"I don't recall when I didn't draw things, and I can't recall when somebody in my house was not making pictures with paint," Richardson said. "My mother and brother were artists. On one occasion we discussed how many paintings my mother had done — we estimated between 2,500 and 3,000."

Once he came to Harding and counseled with an adviser, he chose to major in art simply because he was familiar with the techniques of drawing and painting. Richardson stayed in the art department a year before changing his major to biology. Keeping with his plan to attend medical school, Richardson applied and was accepted to several places. But once he came to the realization he was tired of school, he never started.

"I applied to medical school half heartedly, got accepted to two or three different places, but then just didn't want to go," Richardson said. "Also, with some prodding from my mother, I began painting again."

After graduation, Richardson was living in Chicago and painting when the first Gulf War hit. Due to the war brooding and his interest in history, he decided to join the Marines.

"Though I was commissioned too late to see that history unfold, I found that I could paint as well as be a Marine," Richardson said. "I decided the [Marines] was for me and stayed."

Since then, he has been on several tours, including Helmand Province in southern Af-

ghanistan, where he returned from in September. Even on tour, Richardson is able to spend time painting. His latest work was constructed while living in Seoul, South Korea. The subject matter of these paintings mostly came from the religious symbols, business logos and graffiti Richardson saw.

"The crosses from the Series-R are literal translations of the neon ones displayed on top of the churches in Seoul, particularly the ones dotting the hills that surround the city," Richardson said. "As I moved through the city, I found myself taking particular notice of symbols used in advertising, street signs and graffiti — the art of that."

This collection, along with several others, is on display at The Ralls Collection in Georgetown, near Washington, D.C. Currently, Richardson is working on the pieces he will show in April 2012 at the Gerald Peters Gallery in Manhattan.

Richardson said that often times he is questioned about being an artist and a soldier in the U.S. Marine Corps. British artists and poets from the 1920s and 1930s, such as Henry Moore and Seigfried Sassoon, encourage him.

"I looked to them in some sense and simply kept painting while capturing ideas from the places I went with the Marines," Richardson said. "I'm not a Marine who paints, but a painter who fights." **H**

— Hannah Beall

*Persephone — Goddess of the Underworld, 2010, from the Trojan War series*



Ind., December 2010. Wayne teaches at Harding Academy in Memphis, Tenn. He and his wife, Anita, have two daughters, **Elizabeth Patterson** ('90) and **Becky Blalock** ('01). (6838 Silver Hill Lane, Bartlett, TN 38135)

## 1981

**Paul Reding** teaches English as a second language at Hillsboro Elementary Middle and Pearre Creek Elementary schools. He is also golf and soccer coach for the middle school and preaches at Water Valley Church of Christ. (3745 Robinson Road, Thompsons Station, TN 37179)

## 1983

**Nell Ard** is director of Collin College's nursing program and was selected for the National League for Nursing's Academy of Nursing Education. She joined the academy's 65 fellows representing nursing schools and programs throughout the United States. Collin College's nursing program was named a center of excellence in nursing education by the National League for Nursing, one of only 19 in the country. Her husband, **Wayne** ('82), is an insurance agent. (816 Topaz Drive, McKinney, TX 75071)

**Bill Path** was named president of the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology. He previously served as president of Northeast Community College in Norfolk, Neb., for 10 years. (2804 Mimick Drive, Norfolk, NE 68701)

## 1986

**David** ('85) and **Kathy Wilson Hardin** announce the adoption of a daughter, Karene Elizabeth, March 4, 2011, born Nov. 20, 2006, in Armenia. They also have eight other children, Seth, Jacob, Caleb, Elijah, Abigail, John Mark, Hannah and Gabriel. They attend Madison Church of Christ. (3449 Calista Road, White House, TN 37188)

## 1989

**Mike Allen** has published a book entitled *Growing up Church of Christ*, a memoir about life inside the church of Christ community. His wife, **Cheryl Waite**



('88), is a third-grade teacher at Vienna Elementary school. They have two children. (2887 Sutton Oaks Lane, Vienna, VA 22181)

## 1990

**Doug Black** is the elementary administrator at Alabama Christian Academy in Montgomery, Ala., and his wife, **Tammy Norris** ('89), teaches first grade at Montgomery Public Schools. They have two sons, Reed and Hudson. (6533 West Cypress Court, Montgomery, AL 36117)

## 1991

**Rick Trujillo** won a Nevada Broadcasters Association/Las Vegas Electronic Media Award for a TV videography feature. He is also a member of the national documentary team "A Day in the Life of America's Veterans 11.11.11." (3735 Casellina Court, Las Vegas, NV 89141; truphotog@gmail.com)

## 1992

**Clint Stapp** is vice president of finance at Baylor Specialty Health Centers in Dallas. His

wife, Dana, is a registered nurse also with Baylor Health Care System. (5104 Susan Lee Lane, North Richland Hills, TX 76180)

## 1995

**Lee Langdon** accepted a position as the youth and family minister at Alameda Church of Christ. Lee and his wife, Aime, have four children, Britt, Keegan, Hayden and Makenna. (1517 Cambridge Drive, Norman, OK 73069; lee.langdon@alameda-church.org)

**Joseph and Kelly Hudson**

## [ALMA MATTERS]

### Rhodes offers more than rowdiness

By LIZ HOWELL, assistant to the president for alumni and parent relations

The atmosphere in the Rhodes Field House has been described many times as one the



Liz Howell

best venues in NCAA Division II. Steeped in tradition and backed by the Rhodes Rowdies, Harding basketball consistently leads the conference in home attendance and typically outdraws one-third of NCAA Division I teams. When the University left the Gulf South Conference this year, Harding owned seven of the top 10 single-game attendance records in GSC basketball history.

The men's basketball program, led by coach Jeff Morgan, has been successful since moving to the NCAA, reaching the Division II Tournament three times during his tenure in 2003, 2008 and 2011. Lady Bisons head coach Tim Kirby is in his seventh season and serves on the committee of D-II coaches for USA Today ESPN. He has led the Lady Bisons to GSC Tournament berths in five of his first six seasons. This year the University began competing in the new Great American Conference, which includes nine other schools from Oklahoma and Arkansas.

As students graduate, the dynamics of the Rowdies change, yet the foundation remains. A couple years ago, students Brett Fielder ('11) and Harrison Dell organized a Rhodes Rowdies Revival through Facebook, and the Rowdies were back in force. The influence of the atmosphere is contagious.

"It still surprises people who've known me for a long time that I'm a dedicated fan of Bison basketball," explains Dr. Michael Claxton, associate professor of English. "Having never felt much interest in sports before — even to the extent of not attending a single basketball game in the nine years that I attended Chapel Hill —

I never expected to have my own seat in any stadium or to be driving hours to attend games. But having some of the players in class won me over. I saw their dedication both on and off the court, and then I learned what a thrill it is to feel the excitement our fans bring to the game. It's my weekly cardio workout."

On Dec. 1 another tradition continued — winning the men's basketball home opener. The Bisons handily beat Champion Baptist College 92-60, keeping the streak alive for the 36th year. Author Stan Beck was on campus to witness the University's a cappella rendition of the national anthem to be included in his book on campus traditions. In an interview with the Daily Citizen, Beck said, "Harding's a cappella national anthem is one of my favorite traditions so far. The patriotism affects me, and the thing about Harding's a cappella anthem is that it comes from the heart." This tradition began fall 2005 when Rhodes Rowdies joined in with professors Dee Carson and Kay Gowen as they sang the anthem. It still creates chills among the crowd.

At a recent game, when I heard the fight song, my emotions were stirred. The band, cheerleaders, Rowdies, Buff the mascot, and the reserved-seat fans all add to a special atmosphere. As I looked through the stands, I saw former athletes whose lives have been changed in the Rhodes. Coaches served as influential role models and offered them life-changing opportunities as they received a Christian education.

On or off the court, when a student learns the true meaning of team and family, the results translate phenomenally to the game of life. So, it really isn't whether you win or lose, it is how you play the game after you leave Harding and what you take with you from the experience that matters. **H**



**McClary** announce the birth of a son, David Joseph, Aug. 29, 2011. They have three other children, Madison, Ashlyn and Joshua. Joseph is chief operations officer with ARELLO, and Kelly home-schools their children. (8858 Oak Meadow Court, Montgomery, AL 36116)

**Nathan Randolph** married Sarah Westerling Nov. 27, 2010. Nathan completed his Doctor of Strategic Leadership from Regent University in August 2011. He is preaching for Fellowship Church of Christ in Tucson, Ariz., and his wife is a pharmacist working for Express Scripts. (5534 W. Dove Loft Drive, Marana, AZ 85658; nprandolph@hotmail.com)

**Eric Rogers** made the Top 40 Under 40 Military Class of 2011. He is a captain in the U.S. Army and executive director of Give an Hour, which provides free mental health services to veterans, families and service members. His wife, **Christie Jandecka** ('97), received a promotion at the National Institutes of Health and is working part time on a master's at John Hopkins University. (10607 Tuppence Court, Rockville, MD 20850)

## 1996

**Bradley** and Sarah **Hayes** announce the birth of a daughter, Landry Claire, May 23, 2011. They have two other children, Mason and Anna. Bradley is an attorney with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Sarah is a homemaker. (202 Bradbury Drive, Vicksburg, MS 39180).

## 1997

**Mark Cullum** ('94) married Katie Cobb July 23, 2011. Mark is an assistant professor in the exercise and sports science department at Harding, and Katie is a family and consumer science agent with University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture in White County. (1310 Rehoboth Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

Matt and **Anna Fisher Luther** announce the birth of a daughter, Allis McLean, Aug. 17, 2011. They also have two sons, Marshall and Andrew. Matt is a nephrologist at Vanderbilt Medical Center. (5205 Anchorage Drive, Nashville, TN 37220)

## 1998

Shawn and **Jessica Fain Allen**

## Healing the whole person

Many women can attest that the aches and pains accompanying pregnancy are routine, just another one of the hurdles that are part of the process. But physical therapist **Lori Webb Mize** ('00) refuses to accept that answer. As the only women's health certified specialist in Arkansas, and one of 111 nationwide, Mize has made it her mission to aid women in need.

The motivation to become a physical therapist struck Mize at a young age. "I decided in the seventh grade that I wanted to be a physical therapist," says Mize. "My grandfather had a stroke, and I got to watch his rehabilitation process. He was able to return home after not being able to walk completely for an extended period of time. He was able to live with us for another 10 years because of the therapy he received."

It wasn't until her second year of physical therapy school that Mize discovered the women's health specialty through an instructor at the American Physical Therapy Association's National Student Conclave. During her third year of physical therapy school, her class invited the same instructor to come and teach a class. At four months pregnant with her second child, Mize was experiencing excruciating back pain — something her doctor told her was a normal part of being pregnant.

"Three weeks before I delivered, the instructor from APTA did some manual techniques with me and fixed me," recalls Mize. "I felt better during those three weeks than I did earlier in my pregnancy. From that point on, it really lit a fire with me that this pain is not OK, and women shouldn't think they have to deal with it."

Mize is now clinic supervisor for Conway (Ark.) Regional Therapy Center Specialty Clinic. As part of her studies, she sought to pursue her specialization in women's health. The intensive process includes submitting a case study, filling out an extensive application, and logging at least 2,000 hours of women's health-specific treatment time. Once deemed credible by the board, applicants take a board exam. Mize learned she passed in July 2011 and will be honored in Chicago in February.

In addition to her work with pregnant women, Mize's specialty includes pelvic-floor rehab, which deals with all types of pelvic pain and incontinence.

"Initially, pelvic-floor rehab was a very uncomfortable subject to me, but I really feel like God said to me, 'These people need help, and you're the one to do it,'" says Mize. "Since then it's really become a ministry to me."

Mize has taken her passion for women's health outside of the clinic and into her church, teaching sex education courses for the Christian home in her church and educating parents on broaching the topic with their children, seeking to make a once taboo subject comfortable to talk about.

The ministry she can provide within her own clinic is what inspires Mize. "When you can take a pregnant woman who can hardly move, who can hardly get herself out of bed, and you can work with her where she can go home and move without assistance and feel fine until she delivers, that's huge," says Mize. "You get to treat a patient physically, emotionally and spiritually, and you have the ability to do that all at the same time."

— Jennifer Hannigan



announce the birth of a daughter, Taylor Lynn, Sept. 29, 2011. They have another daughter, Addison. Jessica is a second-grade teacher at Liberty Grove Elementary. (1806 Clydesdale Court, Rowlett, TX 75088; Addisonsmama@att.net)

Barry and **Catherine Wiltse Brake** announce the birth of a daughter, Greta Lind Saenger, July 10, 2010. (635 W. Silver Sands Drive, San Antonio, TX 78216)

**David** ('96) and **Amy Wiley Parks** announce the birth of a daughter, Ava Louise, Nov. 16, 2010. They have two other daughters, Josie and Jenna. (105 Coteswood Court, Columbia, TN 38401)

## 1999

**Brad** ('97) and **Carrie Young Beasley** announce the birth of a son, Luke Edward, Jan. 13, 2011. They have two other sons, Todd and Jackson. Brad is manager of clinical implementations at Corizon, and Carrie is a homemaker. (602 Corlew Court, White Bluff, TN 37187)

**Brett** and **Stacy Glover Davies** announce the birth of a son, Tyler William, Oct. 29, 2010. They have two other children, Sidney and Caleb. Brett is an ophthalmology resident at Wilford Hall Medical Center, and Stacy is a homemaker. (12239 Dewitt Cove, San Antonio, TX 78253)

Casey and **Erin Johnson Owens** announce the birth of a daughter, Hadley Malone, March 18, 2011. Casey is a production control specialist at Raytheon, and Erin is a homemaker. (2205 Oleander Way, McKinney, TX 75071)

## 2000

Don and **Tianay Chambers Carroll** announce the birth of a daughter, Brooklyn Kennedy, Jan. 12, 2011. They have another daughter, Makena Ashtyn. Don is a portfolio monitoring manager for Bank of America, and Tianay is a homemaker. (924 Hidden Hollow Court, Coppell, TX 75019)

**Brett** ('03) and **April Gillespie Emerson** announce the birth of a daughter, Eden Essowe, June 5, 2011. They also have two sons, Caden and Corban. Brett is a middle school teacher for Memphis City Schools, and April is a homemaker. (1667 Colonial Road, Memphis, TN 38117)

**Christy Henson** married Tyler Vodehnal, Dec. 18, 2010. Christy is a middle school history teacher at Pulaski Academy, and Tyler is a business analyst for Hewlett Packard. (15612 Chicopee Trail, Little Rock, AR 72210)

Rudy and **Ashley Hodge Kink** announce the birth of a daughter, Josie Anne, Sept. 21, 2011. Rudy is a pediatric emergency physician at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. (1451 Island Town Cove, Memphis, TN 38103)

Adam and **Dena Jones Moore** announce the birth of a son, Justin Oliver, May 25, 2011. They have another son, Aidan. Adam is a project engineer for Ordner Construction, and Dena is a homemaker. (2800 General Lee Way, Buford, GA 30519)

Luke and **Katharine Snell Moran** announce the birth of a daughter, Evie Laurel, Jan. 28, 2011. (447 Cooke Road, Alamo, TN 38001)

**Heather Roberts Schlittler** accepted a position as co-host of a magazine-style TV show at WCIA called ciLiving.tv. Her husband, TJ, is a power lineman for Eastern Illini Electric Co-op. They have two children, Brock and Jillian. (814 E. Jackson St., Tolono, IL 61880)

## 2001

**Clint** ('99) and **Julia Suchkova Davis** announce the birth of a daughter, Alexandra Grace, Sept. 16, 2011. They have another daughter, Sophia. Clint works in global mobility practice, and Julia is a manager in audit practice, both at Ernst & Young in Dallas. (221 Steamboat Drive, Coppell, TX 75019)

## 2002

**Jason** ('00) and **Melissa Morris Baker** announce the birth of a daughter, Mary Caroline, May 25, 2011. They have two other children, Rose and Julian. Jason is a network/system administrator for Ideal-Tridon in Smyrna, Tenn., and Melissa is a homemaker.

**Joel Coehoorn** was recently named a Microsoft Most Valuable Professional for his service to the tech community in the past year, the third time he has been recognized with this award. He is director of Information Technology at York College. He and his wife, **Melody Chaffin** ('04), have two



## Homecoming chapel

Chancellor of the University since retiring from the presidency in 1987, Dr. Clifton L. Ganus Jr. animatedly tells the history of Harding to students, alumni and friends gathered for chapel in Benson Auditorium.

children. (928 Mayhew Ave., York, NE 68467)

## 2003

**Jeremy** and **Aubri Finley Geurin** announce the birth of a son, Jackson Dean, May 13, 2011. Jeremy is a youth minister at the Church of Christ in Champions, and Aubri assists him with the youth group. (7001 Cutten Parkway, Houston, TX 77069)

## 2004

**Eric** and **Laura Daulton** announce the birth of a son, Garrett Lincoln, Sep 7, 2011. Eric works in IT Support at Raytheon, and Laura is a homemaker. (2821 Holy Cross Lane, Garland TX 75044)

**Leah Sims Garton** works in the Missile Defense Agency Public Affairs Office in Huntsville, Ala. She was selected by the MDA to attend a leadership training seminar that brought together more than 100 young leaders in northern Alabama as part of Connect Class 13. Her team's project, Prepare and Respond, raised \$126,000. Her husband is **Philip** ('03). (329 Kenneth Blvd. N.W., Madison, AL 35757)

**Kyle** and **Stacy Perry Hinckley** announce the birth of a son, Gavin Scott, Oct. 11, 2011. Kyle is an accountant for Barbnnet Investment Co., and Stacy is a history teacher. (11544 Round Leaf Drive, Keller, TX 76244)

**Josh** ('03) and **Erin Selby Reinstein** announce the birth of twins, Samuel Warren and Kate Selby, May 24, 2011. (3505 River Summit Trail, Duluth, GA 30097)

**Forrest Smith** is a minister for Clinton Church of Christ, and his wife, **Tabitha Hayes** ('00), is a homemaker. They have three children: Mason, Jackson and Julianne. (848 Banner Mountain Road, Shirley, AR 72153)

**Jaime Smith** has joined Stinnett & Associates in Tulsa, Okla. She is a certified information systems auditor. (903 W. Indianapolis Place, Broken Arrow, OK 74012)

Dustin and **Jenn Cole Vaught** announce the birth of a daughter, Brinley Claire, June 27, 2011. Dustin and Jenn are elementary school teachers in the Indianapolis area. (3277 N. 825 W., Boggstown, IN 46110)

**Sarah West** received one of three Missouri Outstanding Young Journalist awards from the Missouri Press Association. She is associate editor of the Bolivar Herald-Free Press. (R.R. 2, Box 373, Flemington, MO 65650)

**Brad** and **Michelle Blake Whitlock** announce the birth of a son, Blake Byron, March 22, 2011. Brad works for Dell Computers, and Michelle is a librarian at Old Center Elementary School in Goodlettsville, Tenn. (257 Brookside Drive, Old Hickory, TN 37138)

## 2005

**Jonathan** and **Rachel Arnold Rogers** announce the birth of a son, Caleb William, Oct. 24, 2011. They have another son, Dylan. Jonathan is vice president of Arnold and Blevins Electric Co., and Rachel is a homemaker. (2708 Gemstone Cove, Sherwood, AR 72120; rsrogers83@gmail.com)

Aaron and **Kayla Firquain Sloup** announce the birth of a daughter, Madelyn Kay, Feb. 15, 2011. Aaron is a senior software architect with Cerner Corp., and Kayla is a mortgage port-



folio analyst with H&R Block. (10918 S. Hastings St., Olathe, KS 66061)

**Callie Owen Washer** was featured on an episode of TLC's "Extreme Couponing." She and her husband, Jacob, have three children. (11912 Eudora Drive, Thornton, Colorado 80233; calliegirl44@hotmail.com)

## 2006

**David Condolora** accepted a position as assistant editor at Pixar Animation. His wife is **Brooke Hayes** ('08). (220 N. Myers St., Burbank, CA 91506)

**Charles Elliott** married Cara McAnally April 16, 2011. Charles is an assistant district attorney in the eighth Judicial Circuit of Alabama, and Cara is a photographer. (2627 Summerwind Drive S.E., Decatur, AL 35603)

**Jamey** ('07) and **Leah McKinney Holsombake** announce the birth of a daughter, McKinley Diane, June 5, 2011. They also have a son, J.P. Jamey is a self-employed property manager and building contractor, and Leah is a second-grade teacher at Deane Bozeman School. (311 Landings Drive, Lynn Haven, FL 32444)

Brandon and **Crystal Conder Kellar** announce the birth of a son, Gaige Thomas, June 6, 2011. (11201 Walrond Ave., Kansas City, MO 64137)

**Tara Pylate** has accepted a position as a student development specialist at the American University of Afghanistan in Kabul. She received her master's in journalism from Arkansas State University. (2012 Stone-wall Drive, Caruthersville, MO 63830; tpylate@hotmail.com)

## 2007

**Jacob and Melanie Ponder Fox** announce the birth of twins, Griffin Bradley and Bailey Jane, June 27, 2011. Jacob is an agent for Farm Bureau Insurance, and Melanie is a guidance counselor for Mountain Springs Elementary School. (55 Wood-bridge Drive, Cabot, AR 72023)

**Michael** ('08) and **McKenna Camp Pruitt** announce the birth of a son, William Thatcher, Sept. 9, 2011. They also have a daughter, Hunter. Michael is in Harding's physical therapy program, and McKenna is a homemaker. (Harding University, Box 10855, Searcy, AR 72149)

## 2008

**Jessie Fox Herren** is a first-grade teacher at Sue Reynolds Elementary School where she won Teacher of the Year. Her husband, David, is in medical school. (7017 Parker Place, Augusta, GA 30909)

**Chad Nicholson** ('06) married **Mandy Finch** Sept. 17, 2011. Chad is a senior graphic designer at Tyson Foods, and Mandy is an international real estate finance manager for Walmart Stores Inc. (4077 Glenstone Court, Suite C, Springdale, AR 72762; cenicholson@gmail.com; mandy.finch1@gmail.com)

**Ryan Overbay** ('06) married **Allison Hudgeons** May 22, 2010. Ryan is a physical therapist, and Allison is a speech therapist. (11 Livingstone Drive, Searcy, AR 72143)

## 2010

**Robbie** ('06) and **Karlye Walls Sills** announce the birth of a son, Mercer Dayne, May 28, 2011. They also have another son, Ryder. (170 Fair View Lane, Oakland, TN 38060)

## 2011

**Keith** ('06) and **Erin Cox Sto-**

**baugh** announce the birth of a daughter, Felicity Anne, April 12. (7501 N.W. 135th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73142)

### Send us your news

We love hearing from you. Please keep us updated with what's happening in your life: a wedding, birth, job change, promotion, award, retirement, etc. Send your news items to:

"Connections"  
Harding University  
Office of Alumni Relations  
Box 10768  
Searcy, AR 72149-0768  
or alumninews@harding.edu

Please note that because of publishing deadlines, your information may be delayed an issue.

## Passages

**Annie Chambers Hemingway** ('42), 90, died Aug. 9, 2011. She is survived by her husband, **Wayne** ('41); a son, Albert; two daughters, **Cheryl Beth** ('67) and **Lois Ann Ferrell** ('72); six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Sidney Graham Roper Sr.** ('45), 92, died Oct. 30, 2011. He received his master's degree in English from University of Mississippi. He was a minister in Sardis and Water Valley, Miss; Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; and Rammel, Ark., before moving to Bartlesville, Okla., in 1958. In Bartlesville, he was minister for the church of Christ at Sixth and Dewey for 11 years. He also preached for congregations in Nowata and Barnsdall, Okla., in addition to several small congregations in his early years. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Bonnie Sue Chandler, in 1995 and his second wife, Peggy Louise Baker, in 2008. He is survived by two sons, **Sidney Jr.** ('68) and **Joe David** ('75); two daughters; **Sara Nell Kerr** ('70) and **Bonnie Sue Ward** ('74); seven grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

**James "Jim" C. Garner** ('51), 81, died Sept. 1, 2011. He was a general agent for Penn Mutual Life Insurance Co. for many years. He later became a stockbroker, retiring in 2007. He was a deacon at Western Hills Church of Christ where he was a song leader and formed the

singing group Joyful Noise. He was also a member of the Kiwanis Club. He was preceded in death by his wife, **JoAnn Pickens** ('53), 17 days before he died. He is survived by two daughters, **Judith Garnier** ('79) and **Susan Sloan** ('83); a brother, Joe; a sister, Myrldene Smith; and two grandsons.

**Paul E. Cantrell** ('53), 81, died Sept. 1, 2011. He was a devoted preacher for 64 years. At his death, he was associate minister and elder for the church of Christ located in Camp Hill, Pa. He preached in 15 states and did mission work in Ghana, West Africa, and India; co-authored a book, *Beyond Death's Door*; and self-published more than 200 Bible class study books, which can be found on Camp Hill Church of Christ's website. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, **Mildred** ('56); a son, **Paul Stephen** ('82); a daughter, **Lori E. Deitch** ('82), eight grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

**JoAnn Pickens Garner** ('53), 78, died Aug. 15, 2011. She worked for the Western Co. and Alexander & Alexander Insurance Co. She was a volunteer for many groups including the Alzheimer's organization. She was a member of Western Hills Church of Christ. She was survived by her husband, **James** ('51), who died Sept. 1, 2011. She is survived by two daughters, **Judith Garnier** ('79) and **Susan Sloan** ('83); and two grandsons.

**Alma Sanderson** ('54), 80, died Nov. 6, 2011. She retired after 30 years as food service director of Carrollton-Farmers Branch Schools in Texas. She is survived by a brother, **Lynn Sanderson** ('60); and a sister, **Norma Thornton** ('50).

**Gerald Dean Gibson** ('55), 78, died Nov. 16, 2011. After graduation, he moved to Elsa, Texas, to become a teacher, beginning a long career as an educator. In 1956, he took a job as a social studies teacher in Freeport, Texas, where he served for 12 years. Beginning in 1962, he also served as the preacher for Jones Creek Church of Christ near Freeport. He completed his master's in education from Baylor in 1961. He moved to Groesbeck, Texas, in 1968 in order to help his father start a grocery store. He helped at the

store for two years while teaching English and social studies at Groesbeck Junior High. In 1969-70 he also studied accounting at Baylor and for the next 40 years operated an income tax preparation business out of his home. He became principal of Groesbeck Primary School in 1980 and retired in 1993. He started the first central library, the first computer lab, and the first foreign language program at the school, which received recognition as a Gold Star School in 1993. Upon his retirement, he entered full time into the real estate investment business, acquiring and renovating dozens of houses and rental units in the Groesbeck area. He was a long-time member of Lions Club, serving as president in 1993, and he was elected to the Governing Board of Directors of South Limestone Hospital in 1992. In addition to preaching for Jones Creek Church of Christ, he was employed as a preacher by Bremond Church of Christ from 1968-69, Bald Prairie Church of Christ from 1970-71, Kosse Church of Christ from 1971-80, and Fallon Church of Christ from 1981-91. In 1991 he became an elder of the church of Christ in Groesbeck, where he served until 2011. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Thompson; two sons, Brian and Brent; and five grandchildren.

**Gerald Ransom** ('61), 76, died Sept. 19, 2011. He preached for Coshocton Church of Christ and later started his own construction company. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Lavonne Thompson** ('61). He is survived by two daughters, **Robyn Crow** ('84) and Amy Rouse.

**Melvin Wayne Means** ('71), 68, died Aug. 14, 2011, following a three and a half year battle with Merkel Cell Carcinoma. He was employed by Scotty's Inc. for 17 years, serving as a store manager in Fort Walton Beach, Ocala and Eustis, Fla. After retiring from Scotty's in 1989, he worked as owner/operator of Linway Nurseries, a plant brokerage business. He retired in 2006. He was a member of Orange Avenue Church of Christ in Eustis. He is survived by his wife Linda Greene; two sons, **Nathan** ('96) and **Joel** ('99); and seven grandchildren.

**Kelly Young Creel** ('90), 43, died

## [EVENTS]

### FEBRUARY

13  
Lyceum: Beth Porter, soprano  
20  
Winter Preview

### MARCH

5-9  
Spring break

### APRIL

5-7  
Spring Sing  
5-8  
Bison Days IV  
12  
Lyceum: Doug Niedt, guitar

### MAY

5  
Spring graduation  
7-18  
Intercession  
7-July 27  
Extended summer session

### JUNE

4-29  
Summer I session  
4-July 27  
Eight-week session  
16-21  
Uplift I  
21-22  
Summer Stampede I  
23-28  
Uplift II  
30-July 5  
Uplift III

### JULY

2-27  
Summer II session  
12-13  
Summer Stampede II  
28  
Summer graduation

For a complete list of events and contact information, visit [www.harding.edu/calendar](http://www.harding.edu/calendar).

## [ENHANCING THE MISSION]

### Springtime and harvest

By TED HACKNEY, director of the Center for Charitable Estate Planning

**Spring will soon be here.** Spring is planting time for the future harvest. Ground is prepared, and seeds are sown. Then comes growth and eventually the ripened fruit, ready for harvest.

The same sequence occurs when donors plan for the future by creating an endowment.

The "seeds" of cash or appreciated assets are placed in the ground of an endowment agreement where growth occurs under the watchful eye of investment managers. The funds grow, and eventually the earnings are harvested and used to fulfill the purpose of the donor's endowment.

The cycle occurs the next year and the next. Every year a specified amount is harvested and employed for scholarships, grants, operational expenses or other purposes identified in advance by the donor.

Endowment funds are tremendously valuable to Harding because they represent a steady flow

of financial resources year in and year out. They add stability to the University's financial health and allow Harding to accomplish things she would not otherwise be able to do.

Endowments benefit the donor as well. Usually there are tax benefits. Also, these named, giving vehicles create a legacy for the donor so future generations will know that the donor was committed to the mission of Harding.

Harding has a variety of endowments created by donors who had great foresight and generosity. Some of these funds are small and others large, but all of them contribute to the ongoing success of Harding.

Would you like to learn more? We have complimentary materials that explain the ease of establishing an endowment and the simple mechanics of how they work. For more information, please call our toll-free number at 800-477-4312, option 3, or email us at [endowment@harding.edu](mailto:endowment@harding.edu).

Spring is a season good for planting crops — and for establishing your own endowment fund. **H**



Ted Hackney

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

PUBLIC RELATIONS FILE PHOTO



# The ballad of Benny the bison

By JENNIFER HANNIGAN

Many Saturdays in the fall bear witness to a stampede of Bison football players charging onto the field at First Security Stadium. Almost 50 years ago, however, the football Bisons were also accompanied by a real live bison by the name of Benny. ▸ Benny was three months old when he was acquired by Dr. George Benson in 1965. Benson had traveled to Kansas to retrieve him, but, when Benny was placed in the trailer, he bucked and kicked the trailer apart, the first sign of the bison's stubborn antics. In the furor, Benny broke off his button, the base of what would later grow into a horn, and never developed a horn on the right side.

In his first year, he was easy to handle. On game days, Benson would ride on horseback and lead Benny out onto the field, guiding him by a rope tied to his collar. The next year, his size and strength

dictated that two ropes be tied to him, and he was led by four or five men on either side. By the third year, Benny had grown too big and too mean to control, so he was placed in a horse trailer for football fans and passersby to observe on their way into the stadium.

When Benny wasn't cheering on the Bisons, he resided on the then-College's dairy farm, spending his days with the cows and calves the farm maintained. He dined on corn and grain with the calves, growing bigger and stronger as a result.

As a testa-

ment to his confusion, Benny felt that he could get milk from the cows much like the calves with whom he spent his days, causing quite a scene to those driving by the highway along the farm.

One traveling salesman stopped to make sure he was seeing correctly — a large bison trying to feed from an old milk cow.

However, Benny never learned to cooperate, causing Dr. Clifton Ganus Jr., president at the time, to issue him an ultimatum: "Behave or be barbecue." And Benny didn't behave. So the bison's life was prematurely ended so that no harm would come to those responsible for taking care of him.

"I got a quarter pound of him," says Ganus. "It was some of the most tender meat I've ever eaten." ■

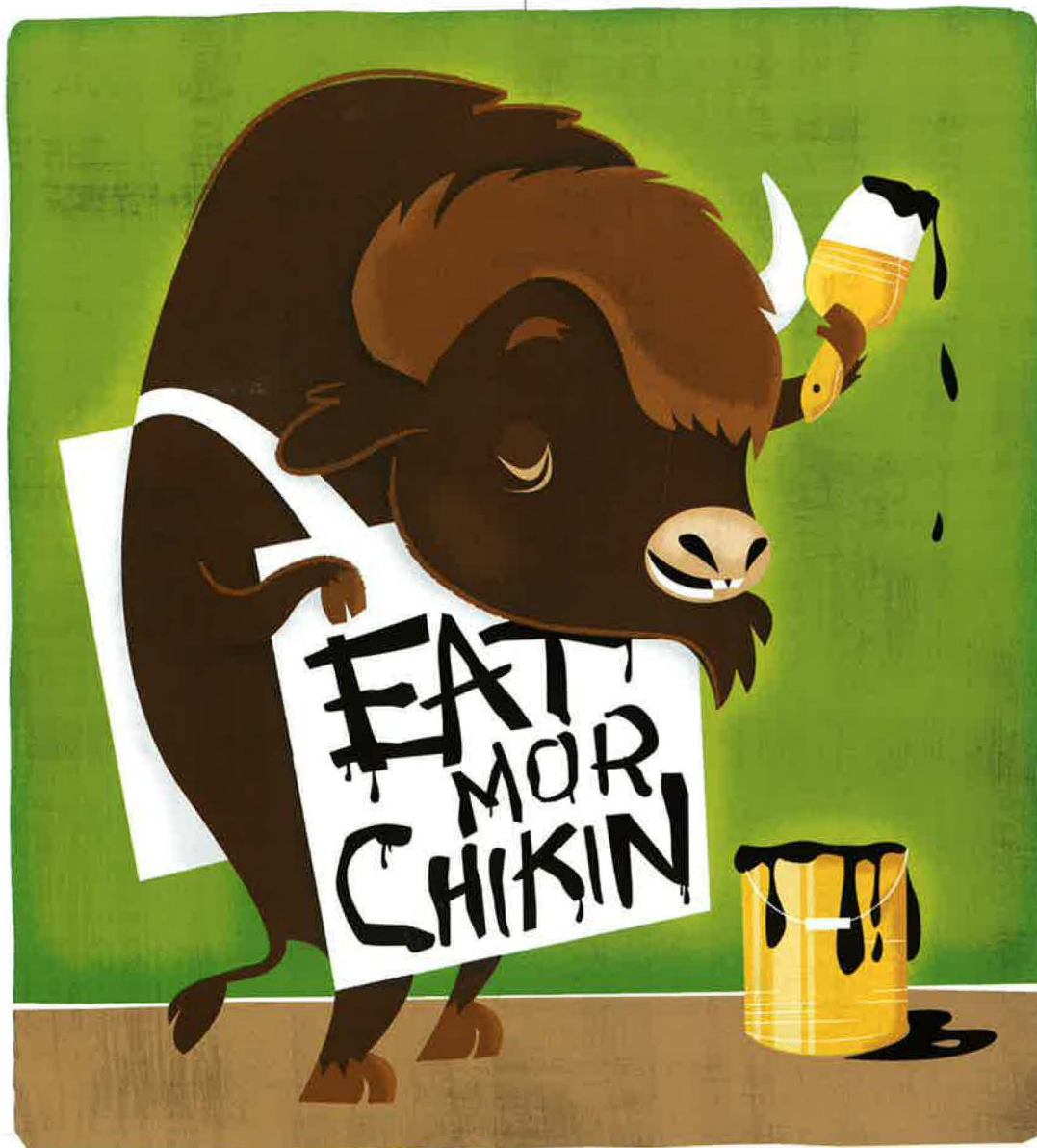
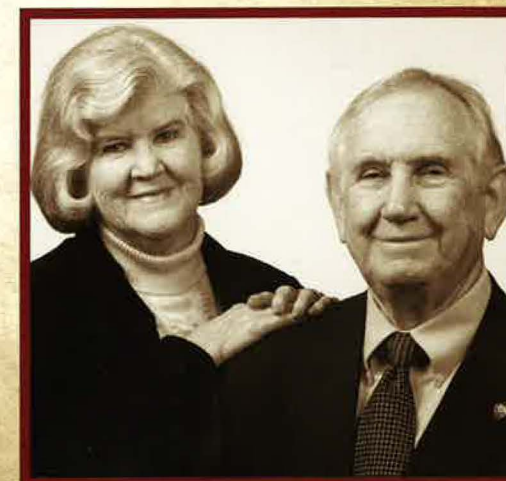


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## [Final Frame]

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

Lights from Rhodes Field House  
shine on the newly fallen snow  
Jan. 9, 2011. To learn more about  
happenings in the Rhodes, see  
Pages 10 and 27.

